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REPORT NO.

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1A

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Food Situation

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

1. The food supply and distribution situation in Czechoslovakia grows progressively worse. Vegetables and fruits are in short supply, particularly in large towns. Rationed foods are scarce, and while the free market is well supplied, the prices are generally prohibitive to the average buyer. The following list of prices of some foods as sold on the free market and through the ration system shows that free market prices are from two to eight times higher than rationed food, and, as in the case of cocoa, tea, coffee, wine and liquor, some items can only be purchased on the free market.

Commodity (per kg)	Rationed Price (Kcs)	Free Market (Kcs)
Butter	80	450
Margarine	38	250
Bean coffee	---	1500
Tea	---	1500
Cocoa	---	700
Flour	28	42
Bread	8	16
Rice	40	300
Lard	---	450
Sugar	15.70	140
Pork	50	300
Wine (qt., poor quality)	---	200
Wine (qt., better quality)	---	300
Liquor	---	1000

2. During the first half of September 1951 the "Week of Open Doors" was in force in the district of Horazdovice (H50/Q39). Commissions were organized by the Local National Committees and were authorized to search any premises whenever they chose in order to locate hoarded, unreported supplies. The action was aimed chiefly against storekeepers who refused to have their stores nationalized and farmers who rebelled against joining cooperatives.

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